

# BROWSING

## CELEBRATING HAMON ARTS LIBRARY'S FIRST QUARTER-CENTURY OF EXCELLENCE

SMU Centennial Homecoming Weekend, September 23-26, was marked by a series of dazzling events commemorating 100 years of achievement. It was a 'pull out all the stops' celebration that might have put a smile on the face of the late Nancy Hamon, whose lavish theme parties remain unparalleled on the Dallas social scene. Only her generosity eclipsed her flair as a hostess.

Mrs. Hamon, who died in 2011 at age 92, was a passionate champion of the arts and education. Among her contributions to the University was a principal gift of \$5 million in 1988 to establish the Jake and Nancy Hamon Arts Library. Ground was broken on December 12, 1988, and Hamon Arts Library opened on October 10, 1990.



*Meadows School of the Arts hosted its open house during Homecoming Weekend in Hamon Arts Library's newly remodeled lobby, providing an opportunity for alumni to learn about the Hamon's crucial support of the school's academic mission. Among those attending were Clement Fox '81, who earned a bachelor's degree in broadcast and film arts from Meadows; his daughter, Catherine Fox '14 (right), a Dedman College alumna; and wife Janie Fox (left).*

art that lines the walls. Folz provided funding for new furnishings both in the lobby and in the library, providing patrons prime seating and study spaces. The inaugural exhibit in the remodeled lobby, "Paper Dolls," photographs of collages created by artists Justin Shull and Colleen Shull '11, will continue through December 13.

Twenty-five years ago, Mrs. Hamon encouraged students to take full advantage of the library, to "read, learn, create and enjoy." Students continue to reap the benefits of her advice as Hamon Arts Library begins a new chapter on the vanguard of arts education.

For a quarter of SMU's first century, Hamon Arts Library has supported the academic mission of Meadows School of the Arts and served as a vital resource for the Dallas arts community. The Meadows School honored that dynamic partnership by hosting its Homecoming open house in the library's recently renovated lobby on September 25.

Meadows Dean Samuel S. Holland shared his vision for the school as a model for 21st-century arts education that wipes "the term starving artist from the lexicon." Hamon Arts Library has a vital role to play as a research hub and catalyst for intellectual discovery.

Art Department Chair Noah Simblist noted that even the reconfigured library lobby feeds that vision by creating a new zone for displaying art. The built-in reference desk that once dominated the space was removed and replaced with sectional seating and side tables. Thanks to the generosity of Ann Folz '50, the more open and comfortable design creates an inviting space for contemplating

### WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Find out on page 3.



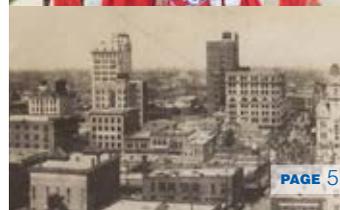
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## THE STYLISH BEGINNING OF A GLAMOROUS LIFE

Even as a young woman testing the waters of fashion design, philanthropist Nancy Blackburn Hamon demonstrated a taste for glamour and an eye for detail. Between 1933 and 1942, she created a series of illustrations featured in the exhibit "Fashion Design Sketches by Nancy B. Hamon" in the Mildred Hawn Gallery at Hamon Arts Library.

A special preview on September 23, a Second Century Celebration event commemorating SMU's first 100 years, was followed by the public opening on September 24 during Centennial Homecoming Weekend.

Drawn from the Jake and Nancy Hamon Papers, housed in the Jerry Bywaters Special Collections in Hamon Arts Library, the sketches were completed while she was in her late teens and early twenties. The vibrant works on paper were created with tempera, watercolor, pen and pencil. Her designs range from red-carpet-ready gowns to stylish day dresses to playful hats. Three oversized reproductions of her work, arranged along one wall of the gallery, provide visitors a life-sized look at the timeless dresses.



As these examples illustrate, Nancy Hamon showed a flair for the dramatic and a keen eye for detail in her fashion designs. Illustrations on this page are from the Jake and Nancy Hamon Papers, Jerry Bywaters Special Collections, Hamon Arts Library.

It is not known if any of the designs were ever fabricated, but "based on the sketches, I certainly think she did design some with herself in mind, because quite a few of the figures look like a young Mrs. Hamon," says Emily Grubbs, archivist with the Bywaters Special Collections, who discovered the little-known illustrations while cataloging the papers, and the exhibit's curator. "We do not know if she was planning a career in fashion design, but she was obviously interested in fashion and the arts from a very young age and that passion continued her entire life."

Born in San Antonio, she attended the University of Texas at Austin before enjoying a brief career as a dancer in Hollywood. She moved to Dallas after marrying Jake L. Hamon in 1949. An extraordinary hostess, she was known for the extravagant theme parties she hosted with her husband, almost one per year from the 1950s through 1972, says Grubbs. Mrs. Hamon's events are documented in scrapbooks, and pages from the party scrapbooks are being shown on a digital screen outside the gallery.

The exhibit will continue through December 13. For more information, visit <https://sites.smu.edu/cul/hamon/>.



Not long after she sketched this fetching green gown and other dazzling designs, Nancy Hamon headed to Hollywood, where she appeared in several films.

## NAMING A NEW MARQUEE SPACE

In June 2015, SMU began a \$17 million renovation project to modernize Fondren Library Center. Along with extensive plans to meet the research and study needs of students and other patrons now and in the future, there are also plenty of naming opportunities remaining to help support the project.

"There are many ways donors can participate in updating the 75-year-old Fondren Library Center," says Paulette Mulry '83, Director of Development, Central University Libraries. "For example, the University commissioned custom-designed, handcrafted Moser tables and reading chairs to re-establish Fondren Centennial Reading Room. A plaque mounted on each named table or chair will recognize the donor or honor a current or former student. There are also legacy opportunities donors can take part in, but there is only one



marquee space left - naming the new Starbucks Café."

The Collaborative Commons and Starbucks Café will be a prime destination for students, faculty and staff. It will be accessed directly from the main quad and the Laura Bush Promenade and provide areas for individual and group study, interactive technology, and conversation and collaboration. Baristas will serve Starbucks' famous coffees, lattes and frappuccinos, as well as pastries, bistro boxes, sandwiches and other tasty delights.

The combined Collaborative Commons and Starbucks Café present the only marquee space naming opportunity remaining in the Fondren Library Center renovation.

"Someone once said caffeine and libraries are the recipe for successful students. I don't know if that's true, but we're certainly going to provide the best of both worlds in one convenient location," Mulry says.

To learn more about naming the new Collaborative Commons, which will house the Starbucks Café, and other naming opportunities provided by the renovation project, please contact Paulette Mulry at 214-768-1741 or email [pmulry@smu.edu](mailto:pmulry@smu.edu).

## NEW DOCUMENT DELIVERY SERVICE

Central University Libraries' Interlibrary Loan (ILL) has added a new component to its comprehensive system -- a document delivery service for faculty, staff and graduate students.

"The ILL system is a great resource that connects CUL to thousands of other libraries throughout the United States," says Salomeh Sheridan, ILL librarian. "We just improved upon an already valuable system by adding a user-friendly delivery service component. From the users' standpoint, it doesn't matter whether or not we have an item in house: we check our collections first, and if CUL doesn't own it, then we borrow it from other sources. The process is seamless."

A key customer-focused change comes in the delivery of CUL-owned books, she says. Prior to launching the new service, when ILL received requests for CUL books, users were notified when items were available, but they had to retrieve the books themselves from the stacks. "Now, if we own the book, we pull it and place it on hold for pick up at the central service desk," she says.

In addition, users can request CUL-owned book chapters or articles, which are scanned and sent to them via email, she says.

For more details and answers to frequently asked questions about the ILL and document delivery service, visit <https://sites.smu.edu/cul/services/ill/>.

## REMAINING NAMING OPPORTUNITIES

### MARQUEE LEVEL NAMING

Collaborative Commons and Starbucks Café  
\$1 million

### LEGACY LEVEL NAMING

Fondren Library Foyer  
\$500,000  
University Archives  
\$250,000

### ADDITIONAL NAMING OPPORTUNITIES

Office of Information Technology (OIT) Help Desk  
\$100,000  
Reference Suites  
\$100,000  
Fondren Library Director's Office  
\$75,000  
Librarian Offices  
\$25,000

### Fondren Centennial Reading Room

Large Table

\$5,000

Table

\$2,500

Lounge Chair

\$1,500

Reading Chair

\$500

Questions? Please contact Paulette Mulry at 214-768-1741 or email [pmulry@smu.edu](mailto:pmulry@smu.edu).

Reading Chair



## WHITE HOUSE AUTHOR JENNIFER PICKENS PRIZES LIBRARIANS AS 'INVALUABLE' RESOURCES

Jennifer Boswell Pickens '00 did not set out to write books about the most prestigious address in the country. But when the opportunity presented itself, she was more than happy to take on the labor of love.



Jennifer Pickens and her daughters shared the "Love Your Library" message and displayed their pony pride as they prepared to ride on the Central University Libraries' float in the 2014 SMU Homecoming parade.

It all started in 2004 when Pickens was invited to one of the annual White House Christmas parties. The decorations and theme were gorgeous and she wanted to share the experience with her family and friends. So, when she asked about purchasing a book about past White House Christmases and was told one didn't exist, she decided to take on the task herself.

From there, Pickens began a four-year journey to produce her first book. The finished product resulted in *Christmas at the White House*, a unique coffee-table book showcasing more than 500 beautifully restored photographs of 50 years of Christmases under nine different administrations, starting with John F. Kennedy and ending with George W. Bush. She is the first person to research, compile and produce a book on this subject.

Her second book, *Pets at the White House*, is filled with photographs and stories of the presidents, first ladies and their families with their four-legged friends. Pickens portrays the role of first pets in more than 200 carefully selected photographs, as well as a multitude of anecdotes, and includes the Obamas.

"Both endeavors were rewarding on so many levels. Not only was I fortunate enough to work with so many talented people with rich history, I also had the distinctive honor of First Lady Laura Bush '68 penning the foreword to my first book, as well as every living first lady contributing an introduction to their section of the Christmas book," Pickens says. "First Lady Barbara Bush wrote the foreword to the second book on the 'first pets' and many other presidents and first ladies added anecdotes as well."

"I am also very proud that a portion of all proceeds benefits the White House Historical Association," adds Pickens.

Pickens' academic background combined with her professional experience - history plus politics - was a nice fit for her subject matter on the White House. Pickens graduated from SMU in 2000 with an American history degree and soon formed her own

fundraising consulting company. After working on the Bush-Cheney campaign, she started writing books on the White House. Her books have been widely successful, and one was named in *USA Today's* top 10 coffee-table books. Today she gives speeches around the country on the White House and first ladies and has become well known as a White House protocol expert. She has been featured in the national media, including appearances on FOX and CNN.

While she serves on many philanthropic boards and committees in the community, she calls her role as president of the Friends of SMU Libraries Board an "honor."

"I had a great experience as a student. So, when the opportunity arose for me to support my alma mater, it was an easy decision. My former history professor James McMillin and his wife, Judy, invited me to Tables of Content, an event hosted by the Friends of SMU Libraries. I got involved immediately," she says. "I'm honored to be part of an organization that supports the heart and soul of the university. The Friends does such a wonderful job providing grants to SMU libraries and scholarships to future librarians."

Libraries have always been special to her. "As a student, I utilized the library effectively and depended upon the librarians for help with research. As an author, I couldn't have completed either one of my books without librarians and historians all over the country who helped me uncover photographs and documents," she says. "They're invaluable to students, researchers, authors, academics and the general public."

Pickens has relied on the assistance of librarians as she wraps up her third White House book, due out in 2016. "This book is about entertaining at the White House and will feature even more exquisite photography of inaugurations, arrival ceremonies, holidays and other occasions," she says.

### SAVING A DALLAS LANDMARK



Sam Ratcliffe '74, head of the Jerry Bywaters Special Collections, Hamon Arts Library, spoke to the Dallas City Council on September 8 during the Dallas Landmark Commission hearing. Before a crowd of more than 250 people in the city council chamber, Ratcliffe talked about the historical and cultural significance of murals

painted by Perry Nichols, a Dallas native whose artwork once graced public buildings throughout the city, including the Lakewood Theater in East Dallas. Thanks to the testimony of Ratcliffe and other experts, the commission voted unanimously to start the landmark designation process for the iconic theater, built in 1938. The story was covered by local affiliates of the four major networks as well as *The Dallas Morning News*.

## CUL DIGITAL COLLECTIONS AWARDED TEXTREASURES GRANT

### The George W. Cook Collection offers wide-ranging look at Dallas and Texas history



Dallas Skyline, January 1st, 1914. Photographic print postcard, George W. Cook/Dallas, Texas Image Collection. Among the many notable buildings pictured is the newly opened Adolphus Hotel (center, left) and Southwestern Life Building (center, right). Find the complete description online at <http://digitalcollections.smu.edu>.

It just got a little easier to travel back in time. Thanks to a \$25,000 Texas Treasures (TexTreasures) grant from the Texas State Library and Archives Commission (TSLAC), Central University Libraries Digital Collections is currently digitizing and annotating 1,317 photographs, documents and ephemera from The George W. Cook Dallas/Texas Image Collection. The collection, held by the DeGolyer Library, contains a rich overview of Texas history with an emphasis on Dallas.

### Significance of the collection

The strength of the Cook Collection lies in its images: more than 2,200 photographs and 12,000 postcards depicting everyday life, ranging from workers wrapping saltines at Brown Cracker and Candy Co. to tornado damage in Garland, as well as more controversial and contentious subjects, including postcards of a Confederate monument and lynching.

Many of the postcards are *real* photographic postcards, not prints of photographs, which adds to their value, says Anne Peterson, DeGolyer Library's curator of photographs.

"Historians, authors, researchers, educators, anyone interested in learning more about Dallas and Texas history will find this collection a treasure trove of materials in various formats," Peterson says.

Peterson and Cindy Boeke, CUL digital collections developer, co-authored the grant proposal. "There is a scarcity of Texas photography from the mid-19th century to the early 20th century, and it is always of interest for research," Peterson says.

### About the TexTreasures Grant

The grant, awarded in August 2015, marks the sixth consecutive year CUL Digital Collections has received a TexTreasures grant from TSLAC.

"Since 2007, the Digital Collections has received \$200,000 cumulatively and uploaded 8,859 items thanks to the generosity and foresight of the Commission," Boeke says.

The digitization project will make important primary resources available online for scholars and history enthusiasts around the globe, a prospect welcomed by historians and authors.

"While collection metadata is often useful to suggest possible solutions to image searches, nothing makes such a search more efficient than access to the actual pictures. This is obviously particularly important for the researchers who cannot easily and inexpensively drop by the collecting institution," says David Haynes, author of *Catching Shadows: A Directory of 19th Century Texas Photographers* and formerly with the Institute of Texas Cultures.

The project is due to be completed by August 2016. Many items are already online and can be viewed at <http://digitalcollections.smu.edu/all/cul/gcd/>.



Other Cook Collection images recently digitized include: (top) Greetings from Dallas, Texas, 1909, a color photomechanical print postcard published by C. Weichsel Co.; (bottom) a stereograph card of a Dallas street scene photograph, ca. 1902-1919.

## MAKING A CAREER DIFFERENCE FOR SMU GRADUATE STUDENTS

Central University Libraries' Norwick Center for Digital Services (nCDS) has created a Digital Humanities Practicum that is helping SMU graduate students with their career development in today's technology-rich environment. Since fall 2013, nCDS' practicum has allowed SMU graduate students to learn about the growing use of technology and software tools for teaching,



Thanks to skills she developed through nCDS's Digital Humanities Practicum, Carrie Johnston '14 is a post-doctoral fellow in digital scholarship at Bucknell University.

research and scholarship in the humanities. Students learn digitization, metadata creation and digital collections development using CUL Digital Collections.

"The Digital Humanities Practicum was a natural evolution of our longstanding Master's of Library Science (MLS) Practicum, where we teach library students about the field of digital collections," says Cindy Boeke, CUL's digital collections developer. "Over the past six years, we have trained 27 MLS students and graduates how to digitize special collections, create metadata and upload items into CUL Digital Collections. Both programs are informal and in many ways resemble an apprenticeship."

The SMU graduate students often add historical context to their Digital Humanities projects.

In 2013, Carrie Johnston '14, then an English Ph.D. candidate, created the Fred Harvey Co. Materials from the DeGolyer Library digital collection, which brought to light new information on the development of tourism in the U.S. Southwest.

Last year, Christopher Dowdy '13, a post-doctoral religious studies student, received specialized training and advice on his multi-archival digital exhibit on the 1910 lynching of Allen Brooks in Dallas, "The Lynching of Allen Brooks and the Disappearance of the Elks Arch."

Charles Wuest '15, who completed the practicum in the spring while an English Ph.D. candidate, states, "I highly recommend the practicum to other students, particularly graduate students in the humanities: the materials we use are changing with digital technology, and more jobs are asking for candidates with training in the digital humanities."

Johnston's practicum project not only attracted interest from unexpected venues, but it also led to a transformative change in her career path. "During job interviews, search committees commented on my digital work and cited my Digital Humanities Practicum as the primary reason for their interest in my candidacy," she says. As a result of her project, in 2015 she accepted a two-year post-doctoral fellowship in digital scholarship at Bucknell University, a position made available through the Council on Library and Information Resources and partially funded by the Mellon Foundation.

"Through my strong background in textual criticism and scholarly research, I have the necessary framework to form partnerships in pursuit of digital and archival projects with university librarians, faculty, and students," she says. "My commitment to cultivating new ways to access and theorize literature and material culture using innovative technology has set me up to succeed in a highly competitive and ever-evolving job market."

## FONDREN LIBRARY PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

Fondren Library Center joined the celebration of SMU's centennial during Homecoming Weekend by hosting an open house with the theme "Then and Now" on September 25. Students, alumni and other campus visitors



were welcomed in the lobby by staff offering information about the Fondren renovation, while a slideshow of information and images from the SMU Archives in the DeGolyer Library reminded visitors of the rich history of the University's libraries.

## WELCOME NEW FRIENDS

New members of Friends of the SMU Libraries who have joined as of November 2, 2015:

Jeremy duQuesnay Adams  
and Bonnie Wheeler  
Mary Boyd  
Peggy Carr  
Mary Cates  
Carolyn B. Dickson  
John and Katie Dziminski  
Julie Forrester  
Alexia Gordon  
Julia Tulloh Harper  
Mona Hersh-Cochran  
Noah Jackson  
Karl Langstson

Andrew Lewis  
Pat Mattingly  
Raffa Rodriguez  
Swayze Smartt  
Stephanie Stegman  
Bonnie Stoner  
Patricia Taylor  
Kirsten Tekavec  
Collin Thompson  
Nancy Wechsler  
Kevin Wei  
Susan and Ed Wilson

## UPCOMING FRIENDS EVENTS

**Tuesday, December 1** Annual holiday luncheon at the Royal Oaks Country Club.

**Wednesday, December 2** Laura Wilson presents *That Day: Pictures in the American West*. The program and book signing at McCord Auditorium, Dallas Hall, will be co-sponsored with the Clements Center for Southwest Studies.

## JANE AUSTEN, THE PASTURE BOOK AND MAGICAL STORYTELLING

"Ask Russell" is a familiar refrain at DeGolyer Library to questions on a vast array of topics, from early advertising ephemera to regional cookbooks. Russell L. Martin '78, '86, Central University Libraries' man for all seasons, serves as assistant dean of collections and director of the DeGolyer. These days it is not unusual to see the respected scholar in a hardhat, steering a full book cart from one end of Fondren Library Center to the other as new spaces take shape during the renovation.

Whether he is reading, studying or transporting them, Martin's professional and personal lives are inextricably bound to books. Taking a cue from the popular "By the Book" feature in *The New York Times Sunday Book Review*, *Browsing Forward* queried Martin about favorite writers and titles and uncovered a few surprises.

**Who is your favorite novelist of all time?**

Almost impossible to answer, but if forced, I'd say Jane Austen.



Russell L. Martin

**Who are your favorite writers working today?**

All of the ones we publish, of course! The DeGolyer has books by C.W. Smith, Marshall Terry, Jane Roberts Wood, Joe Coomer, Darwin Payne and Willard Spiegelman now in print or in press. The Book Club of Texas, which we also sponsor, has just published *Franklin Gilliam: Texas Bookman*, with contributions by John Crichton, David Farmer, Larry McMurtry and others, all reminiscing about a great figure in the antiquarian book trade. I heartily recommend all of our stock.

Beyond the DeGolyer Grub Street, I admire Wendell Berry very much, as well as Jill LePore — her sheer versatility, range and liveliness.

**What's the best short fiction you've read recently?**

Helen Barolini's "The Crossing," in the *Southwest Review*. Actually, it is not a fictional story but a personal narrative. But it certainly is

as well-crafted as a story. And I have to mention the *Southwest Review*, SMU's literary quarterly. Nothing SMU has done in its 100 years of existence is as important as *SWR*. It is hard to think of anything that comes close, over that period, for sustained excellence and intellectual contributions to the national scene. Jay Hubble, John McGinnis, Henry Nash Smith, Lon Tinkle, Allen Maxwell, Margaret Hartley, Charlotte Whaley, and for the past 30 years, Willard Spiegelman, all of those editors have sustained and shaped the *Southwest Review* and made it a vital part of the literary culture of the United States. Every alumnus should subscribe; and every alumnus who is a millionaire or billionaire should endow the *Southwest Review* (and the Spiegelman chair) so that this important work can continue for the next 100 years.

**What kinds of stories are you drawn to?**

There has to be magic. By that I mean the language has to draw me in. I know after a few paragraphs whether a story has those elements. Isaac Singer's "Gimpel the Fool," translated by Saul Bellow, is a perfect example. You simply can't put it down, or I can't. The voice carries you along. The older I get, I find it harder to lose myself in a book in the way I could as a boy. Too many cares and distractions, I suppose. But when a voice comes along that compels me, even now, I simply follow it, grateful for the experience.

**What books might we be surprised to find on your shelves?**

*The Pasture Book* and *The Livestock Book*, by W.R. Thompson — two of my all-time favorites.

**If you could require the president to read one book, what would it be?**

*The Oxford Book of Light Verse*, with the introduction by W.H. Auden. It would well serve the president of the United States or the president of SMU!

## WOMEN ON CURRENCY: NOT SUCH A NEW IDEA

News Radio 1200 WOAI reported on a story regarding the U.S. Treasury announcing plans to replace the image of Alexander Hamilton on the \$10 bill with the image of a historical woman. The image has yet to be determined.

In their reporting, WOAI quoted Russell L. Martin, Central University Libraries Assistant Dean for Collections and Director of DeGolyer Library, throughout their story as a source. Martin said having a woman on a \$10 bill is nothing new in Texas.

The story went on to say, "Before the days of the Federal Reserve, national banks printed their own currency, called bank notes. In Texas, many notes contained stylized images of women in flowing robes striking heroic poses."

Martin also told WOAI, up until the Civil War, women on bank notes were symbolic such as Goddess of Liberty or Female Grace. In addition, the bill included patriotic scenes of industry, farms, and architecture and many are collector's items today.

Some examples below from the Rowe-Barr Collection of Texas Currency at the DeGolyer Library show currency engraved with female images. Visit the Rowe-Barr Collection online at <http://digitalcollections.smu.edu/all/cul/tbn/>. It's home to the most comprehensive collection of currencies in the United States and represents thousands of notes, scrip, bonds and other financial obligations issued in Texas between the 1820s and 1935.



## BROWSING FORWARD

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<sup>1</sup> Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. §§ 1681-1688.



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## COMING TO TERMS WITH WATCHMAN



Thomas DiPiero, Dean of Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences and an acclaimed expert on the works of author Harper Lee, led an animated, interactive discussion of *To Kill a Mockingbird* and the recently published *Go Set a Watchman* on October 7. Friends of the SMU Libraries, in partnership with the SMU Staff Association Book Club, sponsored the program, with an introduction delivered by Gillian M. McCombs, Dean and Director, Central University Libraries, shown with DiPiero. "You can't really read *Watchman* outside of *Mockingbird*," DiPiero said, challenging readers to examine the different perspectives - one story told through the prism of childhood; the other through an adult lens - and appreciate the complexities of Lee's characters in both novels.